NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING DEPARTMENT OF GAME, FISH AND PARKS

A Public Hearing will be held at the Red Rosa Convention Center, 808 W. Sioux Avenue, Pierre, SD 57501 on January 10, 2019 at 2:00PM (CST), to consider adoption, amendment and repeal of Rules pertaining to:

1. ARSD 41:06:01:08.01 New Rule.

Effect: Establish a new rule that restricts applicants for East River, West River, Black Hills or Muzzleloader deer hunting seasons to submitting no more than one license application for the combined drawing for these seasons.

Reason: To increase the number of hunters who draw their preferred deer license and get more hunters out in the field on an annual basis by having fewer unsuccessful applicants.

2. ARSD 41:06:01:09. Application for unsold big game licenses.

Effect: The proposed rule changes establish a drawing structure in which applicants would need to choose a preferred license in either the special buck drawing or the first combined drawing of the East River, West River, Black Hills, or Muzzleloader deer hunting seasons. Current rule adjustments and newly created rules would establish that if a person was successful in drawing a license in the first combined draw for one of the 4 deer hunting seasons they could not apply for a leftover license in the second combined drawing; residents who have or have not successfully drawn a license for one of the 4 seasons could apply for leftover licenses in the third drawing and may only possess one license for each season; in the fourth drawing a resident hunter may submit up to five applications and nonresident hunters may apply for one license; and after the fourth drawing, leftover resident and nonresident licenses are pooled and leftover licenses are available on a first-come first-serve basis.

Reason: These proposed rules would establish a drawing system in which more deer hunters would draw their preferred license on a more regular basis. The structure would allow more individuals the opportunity to deer hunt on an annual basis by distributing available licenses to more individuals in the first and second draws before an individual could draw a second limited-draw license.

3. ARSD 41:06:01:10 Prior application preference.

Effect: Allow applicants a choice to use preference points for leftover licenses in the first three combined deer drawings. Applicants that choose to use preference points in leftover license drawings will not be allowed to accrue an additional point for an unsuccessful application in the first drawing for the season where preference points were used to draw a leftover license. In addition, preference point fees shall be waived for any person who is or was age 15 or younger in the same year when the preference point is acquired for East River, West River, Black Hills, and Muzzleloader deer seasons. Any first-time applicant for the first combined drawing of these deer seasons who meets this same age requirement shall receive an additional preference point upon submission of an application.

Reason: Administrative rule changes and creation of new rules are part of the proposed rules to establish a deer drawing structure which would allow more hunters to obtain their preferred deer license on a more regular basis and provide the applicant the choice of using accrued preference points in more drawings if they so desire to increase their chances at drawing a license in subsequent draws. Currently, preference points are only applied to first choice first draw applications. The administrative rule change would enhance the opportunity for youth hunters to draw the license of their choice.

Interested persons will be given reasonable opportunity to submit data, opinions, arguments, and their views, either orally or in writing (or both) at the hearing. Persons unable to attend the hearing may mail data, opinions, arguments, and their views to the office of the Secretary of the Department of Game, Fish, and Parks, Foss Building, 523 East Capitol, Pierre, South Dakota 57501, or by going to the GFP website at http://gfp.sd.gov/forms/positions. All persons who desire to submit written data, opinions, arguments, and their views by mail or email are encouraged to mail or transmit the same in sufficient time so that it is received by and in the office of the Secretary of the Department of Game, Fish, and Parks 72 hours prior to the date of the hearing. Interested persons will be given reasonable opportunity to submit data, opinions, arguments and their views, either orally or in writing (or both) to the Commission for their consideration. All written and email comments must include the name, home town/city, and state of the person submitting the comments.

The above rule proposals are available for review on the internet by going to https://rules.sd.gov/ and copies of the proposed rules may be requested from the office of the Secretary of the Department of Game, Fish, and Parks, Foss Building, 523 East Capitol, Pierre, South Dakota 57501. Notice is further given to individuals with disabilities that this hearing is being held in a physically accessible place. Any individuals with disabilities who will require a reasonable accommodation in order to participate in the hearing should submit a request to the undersigned at 605.773.3718 or 605.223.7684 (Telecommunication Device for the Deaf).

day	of Dec, 2018.
OFFICE OF TO	Kelly R. Hepler, Secretary
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